

PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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WAGES REDUCED.

The Cut Is Now General in the New England Cotton Mills.

Boston, Dec. 19.—A reduction in wages averaging 10 per cent and involving 6,000 cotton operatives was made in Adams and North Adams, Mass., and Norwich, Conn. At Adams, the cut went into effect in the mills of the Berkshire Manufacturing Company, the largest in Western New England. They employ nearly 3,000 hands. The Eclipse, Beaver and Graylock mills of North Adams, with 1,500 hands, followed the action of the Berkshire Company. As the Williamstown mills and the North Pownal Manufacturing Company's mills reduced wages early in the fall the movement is general in northern Berkshire.

A lower wage scale was put into effect Monday at the mills of the Shattuck and Fall Companies, near Norwich, Conn. About 1,200 operatives are employed by the two concerns. The Attawaugan and Ballouville companies and Tetoket mills, employing 2,500 hands, have joined the other eastern Connecticut concerns in cutting pay.

In all, 88,000 operatives in southern New England, western Massachusetts and scattering mill towns elsewhere are now on a lower schedule.

The seed investigation of the Department of Agriculture have shown that large quantities of trefoil and other practicably worthless seeds are being imported for the adulteration of the alfalfa and other seeds. About 450,000 pounds of Canadian blue grass are imported, the chief use of which is to adulterate the higher-priced Kentucky blue grass seed.

A report is now in course of preparation by the Department of Agriculture on various tobacco diseases. Tobacco experts have been studying the subject for upwards of a year, and besides laboratory work, an expert of the Department, Dr. McKenney, has visited the principal tobacco growing areas and studied the distribution and behavior of the diseases in the field.

A Word from the Business Manager.

Dear Reader:—Please do us the favor to turn your eye to the little label pasted at the head of the first page of this paper. This little strip contains the name of the person for whom this paper is intended, and to whom it was mailed. Following the name, on the same wee slip, are figures which show the date to which this paper has been paid for. If that date comes after to-day, that person owes us nothing, but we owe him a copy of the paper every week until that date is reached, and we are paying off that debt honestly, and just as fast as due. On the other hand, if the figures show a date that has passed, then our kind friend, whose name appears, owes us from that date to the first corresponding month and day in the first twelve months following to-day.

Now, dear, friend if you find the date on the slip has not yet arrived, remember that you have our sincerest thanks and best wishes for your thoughtful and kind appreciation of our efforts to serve you.

If the figures referred to point to a date that is passed, will you not kindly remember us, and send us enough to move the year figures up to at least '04, and we ask that you do this at once, so that we may all enter upon the duties of the new year with clear consciences, and hearts overflowing with true gratitude to kind Providence for the prosperity He has given us up to the present time. Attend to this now and save us the time and expense of making and mailing the objectionable dun, which you so much dislike to receive, and we equally as much dislike to be forced to resort to. And let us devote this time and the cost of this expense to rendering you more cheerfully a better and more acceptable service.

The consonants are dumb, and must await the coming of the music-making vowels. House is a consonant; home is the vowel.—Joseph Parker.

FIGHT WILL BE BITTER.

Those who will persist in closing their ears against the continual recommendation of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, will have a long and bitter fight with their troubles, if not ended earlier by fatal termination. Read what T. R. Beall of Beall, Miss., has to say: "Last fall my wife had every symptom of consumption. She took Dr. King's New Discovery after everything else had failed. Improvement came at once and four bottles entirely cured her." Guaranteed by all druggists. Price 50c., and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

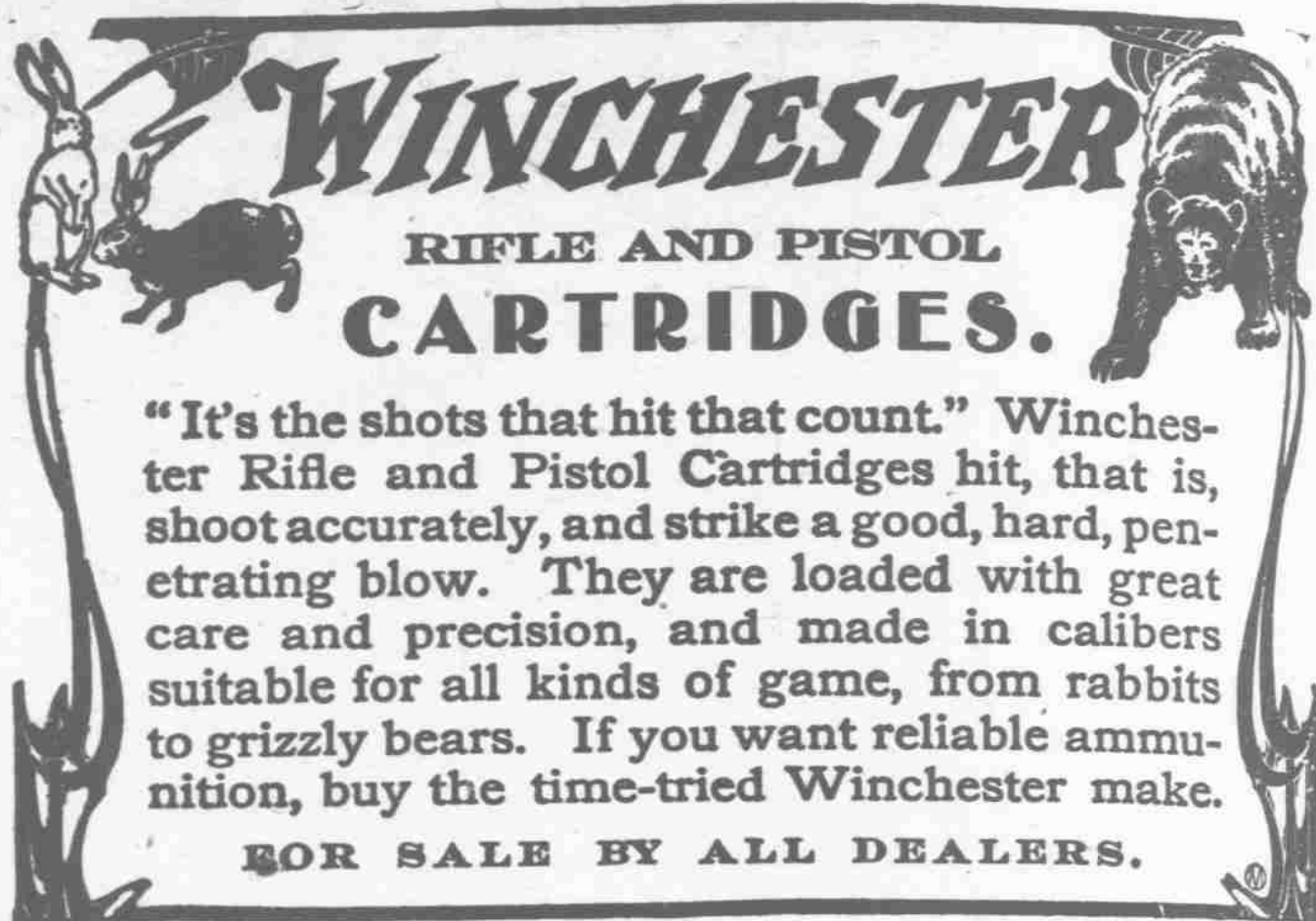
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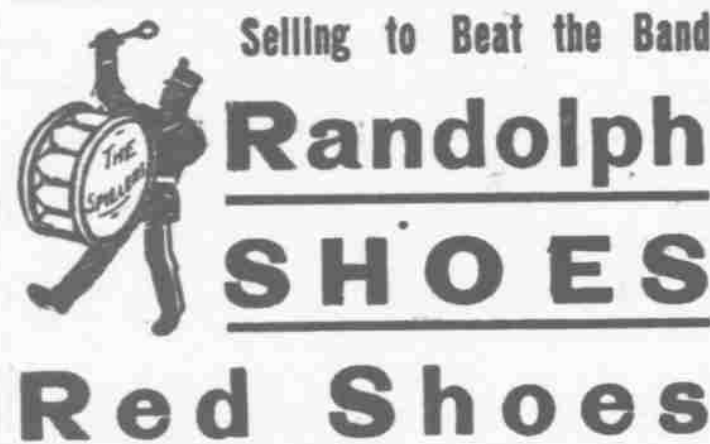
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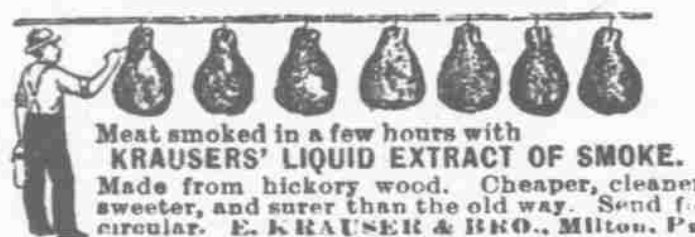


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